

BACK TO PRABHUPADA

The magazine of the real Hare Krishna movement

Issue 34, Winter 2011/12

"Defeating tyranny in the realm of thought"

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Kill guru and become guru

Also in this issue:

ISKCON guru's bodily consciousness

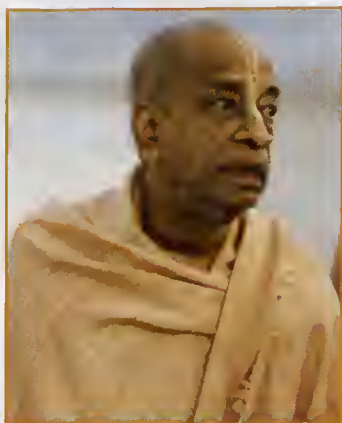
IRM's Russian impact

Creating a deviant *parampara*

ISKCON's fantasy language decoded



Iskcon Revival Movement



BACK TO PRABHUPADA

Published quarterly

Founded under the inspiration of **His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada**, Founder-Acarya, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

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The biggest falldown

Welcome to issue 34 of *Back To Prabhupada* (BTP).

The recent fall of yet another GBC-elected guru hoaxer due to illicit female association, **Prabhavishnu Das ("PV")** - formerly Swami (for details see story on next page), has met with varied reactions. GBC member Praghosa Das downplayed the event, saying in reference to the fall that "*much progress has been made and more progress is being worked on*". His reasoning was that the falldown rate for those taking *sannyasa* (vows of renunciation) in recent years is much lower than previously. Though, as in many previous cases, PV's resignation only occurred due to his position being exposed, for it is admitted that he had been having illicit sex since at least 2001. Therefore, guru hoaxers "falling down" appears to be as much a matter of being "caught" as anything else. It has also been reported that PV's fall resulted in many of his 1500 or so disciples feeling "devastated" and "cheated" by him. Actually, both reactions miss the key point.

As we have repeatedly proven, Srila Prabhupada never authorised any of his disciples to take his position as ISKCON's *diksa* guru. Therefore, the biggest falldown had already occurred long ago when Srila Prabhupada's disciples disobeyed him and usurped his position as ISKCON's *diksa* guru. So serious is such a transgression that Srila Prabhupada describes the unauthorised action of a disciple occupying the position of one's guru

as follows:

"And as soon as he learns the Guru Maharaja is dead, 'Now I am so advanced that I can kill my guru and I become guru.' Then he's finished."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 16/8/1976)

Please see page 12 for more quotes. Hence PV, and all others like him, were already "finished" the moment they desired to take Srila Prabhupada's position as ISKCON's *diksa* guru - which, in PV's case, was over 25 years ago. He then added another transgression in the form of illicit sex. But, even if he had not, the fact remains that he had already fallen down by committing the most serious transgression decades ago.

Thus, neither PV, nor all the other guru hoaxers, "fell down" from being guru, because they were never gurus to start with, and hence could not fall from a position they had not attained. Rather, all the ISKCON guru hoaxers fell down from the position of being a disciple of Srila Prabhupada, when they disobeyed his orders and usurped his position.

Indeed, focusing only on whether or not ISKCON gurus get caught breaking their initiation vows can inadvertently give the impression that those guru hoaxers who are yet to be caught "falling" are "in good standing". But the reality is that all of them were already caught falling down the moment they desired to "kill guru" by unauthorisedly deciding to become Srila Prabhupada's successors.

And managing to not get caught breaking an initiation vow later on does nothing to change this reality. Hence, Praghosa's analysis that they are making "progress" in ensuring *sannyasis* do not break their initiation vows completely misses the point that those of them (which is virtually all), who have already usurped Srila Prabhupada's position as *diksa* guru, are already fallen and spiritually dead.

Similarly, it's not that PV cheated his disciples by resigning as their unauthorised guru due to his illicit activity. On the contrary, as a result of his resignation, if anything, he has actually stopped cheating them and ended their devastation. For now they have been released from following a cheater, and can instead take full shelter of Srila Prabhupada, the real guru. Because, if they had continued to follow PV, they would have continued to have been misled - Srila Prabhupada teaches that unless one accepts a bona fide guru, one will remain "baffled both in this life and in the next." (*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 5.14.13, purport). For ISKCON, that bona fide guru is only Srila Prabhupada and not an unauthorised usurper - regardless of whether or not he manages to keep his initiation vows.

Please feel free to write to me at the following email address:

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Thank you and Hare Krishna.

Yours in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

Krishnakant

IRM Mission Statement

Since the physical departure of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada from our material vision on November 14th, 1977, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), the great movement which he single-handedly founded in 1966, and which is the only hope for humanity, has undergone a massive deterioration in its spiritual purity. This has been due to various deviations from the instructions and standards given by Srila Prabhupada, the chief of which being his displacement as the sole *diksa* guru for ISKCON. The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and *diksa* guru for ISKCON. The IRM's position is set out in *The Final Order* - see back page to order your free copy.

Creating a deviant *parampara*

The high-profile fall from grace of guru hoaxer **Prabhavishnu Das ("PV")**, who has removed himself from all positions of ISKCON leadership, including both as an ISKCON guru and *sannyasi*, brings into focus the GBC's philosophical position regarding the *parampara* (disciplic succession of self-realised *acaryas* beginning with God, or Krishna, Himself). All quotations in the shaded boxes are from current official GBC position papers as presented in the GBC paper *Gurus and Initiation in ISKCON*.

The fallen *parampara* -1

We have documented previously that it seems an ISKCON guru and *sannyasi* can engage in all sorts of deviation and still continue acting as a guru.

For example:

a) Satsvarupa admitted to having an affair with a married female disciple.

b) Umapati was determined by the GBC to have behaved sexually with a number of male disciples over many years.

c) Param Gati was determined by the GBC to have made sexual advances to a male devotee.

Yet, despite all these transgressions by supposed *sannyasis*, all of them were still given "half-guru" status, which means they could still carry on functioning as bona fide *diksa* gurus in the *parampara* for their current disciples and were only prohibited from taking new disciples. (Umapati was later removed as guru completely only because he did not accept his "half-guru" status, and not because of his sexual deviations). Thus, the GBC permit a fallen standard of behaviour from those who are required to display the highest standard of behaviour – the members of the *parampara*. The reason for this can be found in the GBC's position regarding *parampara* guru, which officially permits them to deviate.

This states:

"If one's guru performs some wrongful act, breaking Vaisnava regulative principles [...] one should not give him up. [...] even if the guru has a lack of knowledge, [...] is unable to give adequate Krsna conscious instructions [...] one should not reject the guru".

Thus, the GBC's position is that, even when their gurus are fallen, they can still function as bona fide members of the *parampara*.

The fallen *parampara* -2

The case of GBC-elected guru hoaxer Prabhavishnu Das helps to vividly illustrate the GBC's philosophy regarding who is fit to be a member of the *parampara*. The GBC state regarding PV:

"he has admitted to a number of sexual falldowns particularly in 2001 [...] experienced bouts of spiritual weakness for some years [...] In 2011 he met a woman in Bangkok and began a relationship with her*."

The GBC also state that PV:

"does continue to honor his discipleship under Srila Prabhupada and intend to remain connected to ISKCON"**

But the GBC's law governing their *parampara* gurus states that the only conditions under which a guru can be rejected are if:

"he gives up the Vaisnava mentality, offends the Vaisnavas, adopts a bogus philosophy, or goes on repeatedly performing sinful acts".

Thus, as PV is still supposedly a Vaisnava currently honouring his commitments as a Srila Prabhupada disciple, he is not violating the conditions mentioned above under which a guru can be rejected. Which would mean that if PV had not himself resigned, then according to the GBC's deviant *parampara* standards, in theory, despite his transgressions, amazingly PV's disciples could still not reject him as a guru!

*Taken from GBC Executive Committee statements, 13/1/2012 and 2/2/2012

The invisible *parampara*

In addition to this GBC position that even deviants can still be bona fide members of the *parampara*, the GBC have also now created an invisible *parampara*! Whilst dealing with Umapati's removal from being an ISKCON guru, the GBC stated:

"However, ISKCON will not recognize initiations given by Umapati Dasa after February 2010. Devotees initiated prior to this date are accepted as duly initiated members of ISKCON. [...] Umapati Dasa is no longer an ISKCON spiritual authority or member [...] He will not be allowed to reside in ISKCON temples, nor to teach or lead kirtan at an ISKCON temple, or an ISKCON-sponsored event."

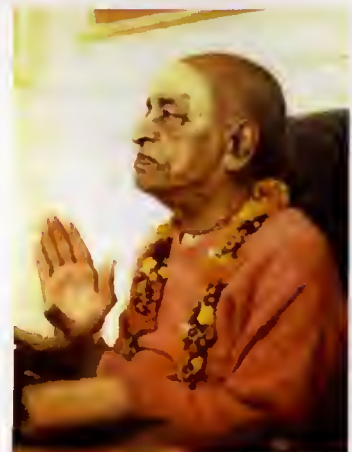
(GBC Statement on Umapati Das, 28/2/2011, released 13/4/2011)

Thus, Umapati is now considered to be so spiritually deficient that he is no longer even considered to be an ISKCON member or spiritual authority, or even allowed to lead *kirtan*, never mind be considered a bona fide member of the *parampara*.

The GBC states that:

"to be properly connected with Krsna and get the full benefit of chanting, a connection with a bona fide spiritual master is required"

which, as we just saw, the GBC accept is not provided by Umapati. But, the GBC also states that all those disciples that Umapati initiated before 2010 are still considered to be duly initiated members of ISKCON, even though they have no bona fide spiritual master. This means we have the ludicrous situation that they are connected to the *parampara* via an initiation from a person who himself is not considered by ISKCON to be in the *parampara*! The disciples are therefore supposedly linked to the *parampara* via an invisible or non-existent member.



Srila Prabhupada:
The only bona fide connection to the *parampara*

Conclusion

The GBC have tried to offer noble motivations for why they insist on their guru hoax, claiming it is required in order to "continue the *parampara*" and that to do anything else would be to go against the "tradition" of the disciplic succession and Srila Prabhupada's orders. Yet their creation of an invisible *parampara* through Umapati, which does not even adhere to their own rules, clearly belies these claims. For one cannot continue the *parampara* via an invisible or non-existent link. In addition, Srila Prabhupada has not taught that the *parampara* should contain either half-gurus or invisible gurus, nor are there any examples in the *parampara* of such gurus. Rather, this is just yet another example of how the guru hoax *parampara* is simply fabricated by the GBC as they go along.

But there is no need for such a deviant *parampara* to be created in the first place. Because the opportunity for everyone to connect to a bona fide *parampara* already exists. And that is by following Srila Prabhupada's orders and connecting to the *parampara* directly through Srila Prabhupada himself, without needing to go via any fallen or invisible, unauthorised GBC gurus.

Determining the truth - 1:

The method one uses to determine the truth will also determine the conclusions one reaches. If one adheres to only using Srila Prabhupada's recorded statements, known as the "POP" (Prabhupada-Only Paradigm – see BTP 31), then one will end up reaching conclusions which are in line with Srila Prabhupada's orders. This is the method the IRM uses. However, those who support ISKCON's guru hoax claim to be firmly convinced that the conclusions of the IRM are completely opposed to Srila Prabhupada's teachings. As we will now reveal, such an erroneous conviction will naturally result if an erroneous methodology, rather than the authority of Srila Prabhupada's statements, is used for determining the truth. **HH Jayadvaita Swami ("JS")**, a BBT Trustee and ISKCON guru, was behind the GBC ditching its previous "final *siddhanta*" on gurus and initiation and instead adopting its current resolution on this issue (as documented in BTP issues 4 and 17). And his papers on the "ritvik people" are routinely promoted by other ISKCON leaders as an authoritative "rebuttal" against the IRM's position. In the following statements in the shaded boxes, which are from an email exchange JS had with an IRM supporter (with the statement in blue denoted by chevrons thus ">", coming from the said IRM supporter), JS reveals his methodology for determining why the IRM must be wrong.

Truth via bodily status

"And if even the members of the GBC can make mistakes, how much more prone to mistakes must be the author of 'The Final Order' (the 'ritvik Bible'), Krishnakant Desai, an uninitiated Gujarati guy from London."

JS correctly states, like other ISKCON gurus such as HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, that *The Final Order* ("TFO") is indeed the document

which definitively sets out the *ritvik* position ("ritvik bible"). He concludes that the author of TFO, and therefore TFO itself, "must be" more prone to mistakes than the GBC, as the author is an "uninitiated Gujarati guy from London" (Gujaratis are those who hail from a state in Western India). In offering this statement as his reasoning for why the author of TFO "must be" more mistaken than the GBC, JS is claiming that the bodily designation (as well as physical location and initiation status) is somehow relevant to how "prone to mistakes" one must be. We can note that Srila Prabhupada has never taught that such bodily designations are relevant to determining how prone one is to making mistakes.

Truth via doctorates

"ISKCON has plenty of splendidly logical thinkers, several of them with doctoral degrees, such as Ravindra Svarupa Prabhu, Urmila Mataji, Krsnaksetra Prabhu, Drutakarma Prabhu, Radhika Ramana Prabhu, and others. And none of them buy the supposed logic of Krishnakant Desai."

Continuing his obsession with bodily consciousness, having decided to cite Krishnakant's racial origin as being of relevance to why he must be wrong, JS further adds that the possession of "doctoral degrees" is relevant in the matter of those who are supposedly "splendidly logical thinkers" who do not buy the logic presented in TFO by Krishnakant. Again, we can note that Srila Prabhupada has never taught that the possession of doctoral degrees is in any way relevant to the matter of being "splendidly logical thinkers".

So there you have it. On the one side you have people who have "doctoral degrees" and on the other you have someone who is just a "Gujarati guy"!

Truth via ignorance

"The Final Order" (the "ritvik Bible") [...] Their usual argument, in essence, seems to be that since so many of Srila Prabhupada's disciples who "became gurus" botched the job so badly, the usual *parampara* system couldn't possibly be what Srila Prabhupada expected us to follow, and he therefore "must have" created and endorsed the "ritvik system," never before seen or heard of in the history of Vaisnavism (or, for that matter, in the history of any other authentic Indian spiritual tradition)."

Having himself stated that TFO is the "ritvik bible", JS then goes on to offer as the supposed "essence" of our "usual argument" something which is *never* stated (never mind "usually") in TFO. For our argument is the exact opposite of what JS claims here. We do not state that because some ISKCON gurus fell down this means Srila Prabhupada ordered a "ritvik system". Rather, we state the fact that Srila Prabhupada first ordered a *ritvik* system, but some disciples decided instead to then become unauthorised successor gurus.

"That's a terribly bad argument."

JS then calls his own fabricated argument regarding the *ritvik* position, a "terribly bad argument". We agree. There is no more "terribly bad argument" than one which does not even exist!

> "While the *ritvik* representatives > document their arguments very > clearly."

"Not that I've seen."

Since JS is not aware of TFO's position, it is not at all surprising that he claims to have not seen the clearly documented arguments presented by TFO!

"But the 'ritvik' notion is such a poor concoction that I don't see how it deserves to be taken seriously. In my view, spending time with it just distracts us from the issues concerning leadership that genuinely deserve to be looked at."

As seen above, it is JS himself who has concocted what the "ritvik notion" actually is. He further claims that "spending time" with it "distracts us". But, as seen above, he has actually spent no time on it, since he has no idea what it actually is. Therefore, if he did spend time on it, then it would only "distract" him from remaining in ignorance regarding what it actually is!

Clearly, being completely in ignorance of the IRM's position will only lead one to reach an ignorant conclusion regarding its validity.

Truth via assumption

"If someone can show me from Srila Prabhupada teachings that he wanted to have no grand-disciples (no 'disciple of my disciple'), that he wanted the disciplic succession he kept teaching about to be 'put on hold' for ten thousand years, and that for the next ten thousand years he wanted himself to be the only guru, then the ISKCON management (and the advanced ISKCON devotees I respect who are not in management) are wrong, and Krishnakant Desai has found 'the answer'. But I think that's baloney, and I'm not buying any of it."

The above argument assumes that Srija Prabhupada had ordered guru successors (and therefore wanted grand-disciples) to take his place as the *diksa* guru for ISKCON. Because without such an assumption, there is no need for Srila Prabhupada to state the con-



Ignorant bodily consciousness?

trary, since he had already established himself as the *diksa* guru for ISKCON as soon as ISKCON was founded in 1966. Rather one can just as easily state:

"If someone can show me from Srila Prabhupada's teachings that he wanted to have no ritviks (no "officiating acaryas"), that he wanted the ritvik system he set up to be "put on hold" when he departed, and that instead he ordered diksa guru successors to take over as soon as he departed, then the IRM are wrong, and Jayadvaita Swami has found "the answer". But I think that's baloney, and I'm not buying any of it."

JS therefore needs to establish with evidence that the state of affairs Srila Prabhupada ordered in ISKCON, with himself as its initiating guru, was to change on his departure. The burden of proof is on those who seek to change the status quo. By definition, no further proof is required for the status quo to remain the status quo. This conclusion is so obvious that even JS agrees, with the following taken from his paper addressing the *ritvik* issue:

"This is simply a classic argumentative blunder, a textbook fallacy. "How do we know that you don't beat your wife?" demands the rumor-monger. And then you're stuck there, trying to come up with evidence to counter a groundless accusation. [...] One must support one's views by evidence, not by assertions that a lack of counter-evidence makes them true. Enough said!" (*"Where the Ritvik People Are Wrong"*, 1996)

JS has, therefore, first assumed that which he wants to be true (that Srila Prabhupada must be replaced by a successor), then claimed there is no counter-evidence, and then claimed that these counter-assertions make his assumptions true. You can always claim something is true by simply assuming it to be true!

Truth via silence

"And, by the way, I don't believe that Srila Prabhupada shows his mercy by engaging people in publishing magazines dedicated to criticizing and blaspheming Vaisnavas. [...] Only people spiritually sick or misguided could dedicate themselves to putting out a magazine dedicated to broadcasting the faults of other devotees (and have the nerve to call it "Back to Prabhupada")."

JS is not claiming here that the criticism is inaccurate or that the "faults" broadcast are fabricated. Rather, he is claiming that simply the mere act of criticising is evidence that those doing so are not receiving Srila Prabhupada's mercy and are spiritually sick and misguided. But Srila Prabhupada has never taught that one should not criticise. On the contrary he states:

"The truth should be spoken in a straight and forward way, so that others will understand actually what the facts are. If a man is a thief and if people are warned that he is a thief, that is truth. Although sometimes the truth is unpalatable, one should not refrain from speaking it. Truthfulness demands that the facts be presented as they are for the benefit of others. That is the definition of truth."

(*Bhagavad-gita As It Is*, 10:4-5, purport, original 1972 edition)

Therefore, just the fact that *BTP* points out faults is not relevant to determining whether or not *BTP* is supported by Srila Prabhupada or spiritually sick and misguided. What matters is whether or not those faults are *accurate*. Because if those acting as gurus are unauthorised, then they are stealing disciples from Srila Prabhupada, and, therefore, are the worst possible thieves. And Srila Prabhupada clearly states that people should be warned against such

thieves, and that such facts must be presented for the benefit of others.

Truth via personal opinion

"But if I'm supposed to believe the stuff published by the *ritvik* people, ISKCON's leaders have gotten *everything* wrong, and there's virtually nothing they've done right that's worth talking about. From where I sit, that's a sick view of the world."

JS states that the idea that ISKCON could be wholesale deviating has automatically got to be a "sick view of the world" based on where he sits, or his personal perspective. But what matters is not his personal perspective, but the facts. And JS has not presented any arguments to challenge the evidence presented in *BTP*. Indeed, even after he had received GBC approval to become a supposedly self-realised "good as God" *diksa* guru, JS himself held the same worldview regarding ISKCON's leaders that the IRM does:

"8. The GBC has failed to maintain and protect the spiritual standards of the Society. [...]"

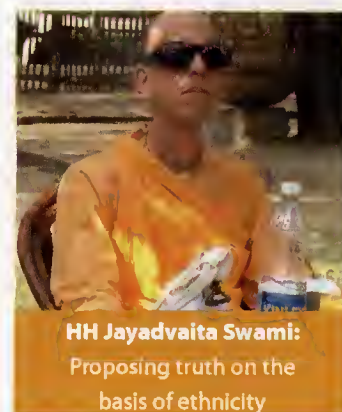
13. After Srila Prabhupada's disappearance, for many years the GBC systematically misrepresented Srila Prabhupada's teachings and instructions about carrying on the disciplic succession. [...]"

27. The members of the GBC have systematically misrepresented--and allowed and encouraged others to misrepresent--Srila Prabhupada's teachings and instructions about business and *sankirtana*.

28. The members of the GBC have neglected and misrepresented numerous other teachings and instructions of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. [...]"

32. By allowing, advocating, taking part in, perpetuating,

"And if even the members of the GBC can make mistakes, how much more prone to mistakes must be the author of *The Final Order*, a Gujarati"



HH Jayadvaita Swami:
Proposing truth on the basis of ethnicity

and defending these and other forms of contamination and decay, the members of the GBC have brought the ultimate managing authority of the entire International Society for Krishna Consciousness to a state of disrepute and pollution."

("Several Grievances Against the Members of the GBC", JS, 5/3/1987)

And JS lists 27 more of such grievances!

Conclusion

In contrast to the IRM, the method employed by JS to determine the truth is based not on Srila Prabhupada's teachings and the facts in evidence. Rather, his approach is based on a combination of bodily status, ignorance and personal opinion. Consequently, even though the IRM's conclusions are naturally based on Srila Prabhupada's teachings due to the "POP" methodology employed, it is no surprise that guru hoax supporters may conclude otherwise. For ignorant methods used to determine the truth will result not in the truth, but merely ignorant conclusions.

Determining the truth -2: Faith in senior devotees?

We have just seen how emotional, rather than evidentiary reasons, based on bodily considerations, have been offered to determine who must be wrong. A corollary is the argument that those who are "advanced senior devotees" must necessarily be right. Devotees find such emotional considerations difficult to overcome, even if contrary evidence is staring them in the face, due to the following reasoning:

On the need for a "living guru" all the senior-most devotees agree, even if they may disagree on other points. Hence, how can so many advanced Vaisnavas on the planet be wrong? How is it possible for such Krishna conscious persons, who have been strictly chanting Hare Krishna, to be hopelessly deluded as the IRM claim?

We will examine this reasoning here.

Case Study 1: Gaudiya Matha

The Gaudiya Matha was founded by Srila Prabhupada's spiritual master, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Maharaja. By all accounts, many of the leading members of this institution appeared to have been practising Krishna consciousness from very young ages, chanting 64 rounds a day, without any record of gross sensual deviations, and were learned in the *sastras*. Yet, after the disappearance of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Maharaja, the leading members of this institution all deviated and misunderstood the order of the guru:

"Why this Gaudiya Matha failed? Because they tried to become more than guru. [...] But these people, just after his passing away they began to fight, who shall be *acarya*. That is the failure. They never thought, 'Why Guru Maharaja gave us instruction so many things, why he did not say that this man should be *acarya*?'"

They wanted to create artificially somebody *acarya* and everything failed. [...] And as soon as he learns the Guru Maharaja is dead, 'Now I am so advanced that I can kill my guru and I become guru.' Then he's finished." (Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 16/8/1976)

So this is clear evidence that, regardless of how long one appears to have been practising Krishna consciousness, when the desire to take the position of guru enters - "Then he's finished". And this was not just one or two individuals, but the entire leadership, the senior-most men.

Case Study 2: ISKCON

Following Srila Prabhupada's physical departure, the entire leadership of ISKCON repeated the same mistake made by the Gaudiya Matha, and became overcome by the desire to occupy the position of guru and thus were also "finished". By their own admission they were hopelessly deluded in operating an unauthorised guru system for at least 10 years:

"by the influence of *maya*, illusion, a different idea soon evolved that Srila Prabhupada had appointed eleven "pure devotees" to serve as the only gurus after him [...] This zonal guru system, as it came to be called, prevailed in ISKCON for about ten years, until its falseness became clear"

(*An Apology, Back To Godhead*, #25-01, 1991)

It should not be surprising that exactly the same "senior" devotees who authorised and supported this false system are making similar arguments to support the guru system in place in ISKCON today. And it should also not be surprising that they are just as wrong again!

Can't advance in chanting

We have seen that one cannot determine the truth based on following the majority opin-

ion of those who may appear to be the most senior leaders. Srila Prabhupada explains how it is possible for such persons to not become advanced in understanding Krishna consciousness. Firstly, he explains that simply chanting does not even guarantee that one is a *brahmana*:

Satsvarupa: "In our ISKCON, one becomes a *brahmana* after a year. It's not very hard. Everyone becomes a *brahmana*."

Prabhupada: "That is due to chanting. That lift very easily."

Hari-sauri: "Where will we introduce the *varnasrama* system, then?"

Prabhupada: "In our society, amongst our members."

Hari-sauri: "But then if everybody's being raised to the *brahminical* platform..."

Prabhupada: "Not everybody. Why you are misunderstanding? *Varnasrama*, not everybody *brahmana*."

Hari-sauri: "No, but in our society practically everyone is being raised to that platform. So then one might ask what is..."

Prabhupada: "That is... Every body is being raised, but they're falling down."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 14/2/1977)

And secondly, having just seen the admission that ISKCON's leadership completely deviated as soon as Srila Prabhupada departed (and this deviation has continued to the present day), Srila Prabhupada states here that such disobedience will finish one's spiritual life in the beginning itself:

"First offense is *guru avajna*, defying the authority of guru. This is the first offense. So one who is offensive, how he can make advance in chanting? He cannot make. Then everything is finished in the beginning. *Guru avajna*. Everything is there. If one is disobeying the spiritual master, he cannot remain in the pure status of life. He cannot be



Only Srila Prabhupada's statements determine the truth

***siksa*-guru or anything else. He is finished, immediately. [...] The first offense is to disobey the orders of guru. That is first offense. So if you are offensive, how you can become advanced by chanting? That is also not possible."**

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 4/7/1974)

Conclusion

The only method to determine what Srila Prabhupada ordered is to ... examine Srila Prabhupada's orders - the "POP" (Prabhupada-Only Paradigm) model. Yet, ISKCON's leadership attempts to use every other method to determine what Srila Prabhupada ordered, such as:

a) Consulting tradition, previous *acaryas* or the "testimony" of devotees.

b) Examining the bodily status of the person presenting the truth.

c) Examining the "seniority" of the person presenting the truth and so on.

And when we do examine Srila Prabhupada's orders, ISKCON is seen to be hopelessly deviating in every major area, as documented in "ISKCON's new mission", *BTP* 30, and even agreed on by ISKCON guru HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, as documented in the last issue. It is no wonder, therefore, that ISKCON's leadership undertakes so many methods to determine Srila Prabhupada's orders other than actually examining Srila Prabhupada's orders!



BTP Interactive

Amazingly mind-boggling

"I wanted to let you know that I found your BTP 32 excellently prepared, each issue gets better than the previous best one. The 100 Deviations of HH Sivarama Swami was amazingly mind-boggling - I compliment you that you know everything about the teachings of Srila Prabhupada and that makes you capable to compare and spot the deviations."

- Piyush Ahuja, New Delhi, India



100 Deviations:
The life and teachings of
His Holiness Sivarama Swami



Boggles the mind:

100 Deviations:

**The life and teachings of
His Holiness Sivarama Swami,**
available free of charge by
writing to: irm@iskconirm.com
- Ed.

Judging a book by its cover

"I find your tone not only offensive, but counter-productive to your goals. [...] What comes through as a first impression is not philosophy, but sour emotion. [...] The new book about Sivarama Swami you just sent is a case in point. [...] You have chosen the worst photo you could (he is unshaven, eyes opened wide -- a candid shot that would not be picked by him or anyone friendly to him) [...] Please do not respond with arguments."

- Kirtana Rasa Das, New York, USA

Editor replies:

It is not surprising that the writer of this letter, Kirtana Rasa Das ("KRD"), has specifically requested that no arguments be made in response to his allegations, for then his allegations would be exposed as being unsubstantiated. Nevertheless we will debunk them here one by one:

a) "tone is offensive"

Since we only state the truth, it can never be offensive, otherwise truth or dharma would itself be the greatest offender, which in turn would mean that dharma was actually adharm (irreligion), which is a contradiction. And KRD has not even attempted to offer even one instance of any statement made in BTP which is untrue.

b) "photo would not be picked by Sivarama Swami or anyone friendly to him"

KRD is again wrong, since the photo he refers to was used to advertise a link to Sivarama Swami's own official website by those friendly to him.

c) "sour emotion, not philosophy"

Again KRD has not even attempted to offer even one example where we present sour emotion, rather than philosophy and documented facts. So this is yet another unfounded allegation from KRD. And making a series of unfounded allegations without any evidence is a perfect example of engaging in "sour emotion", rather than philosophy. Therefore, it is KRD who is guilty of the very action he accuses BTP of!

If one was able to actually find any fault in what BTP states, one would simply do so. It is only this inability to point out even a single instance of BTP presenting any false statements that forces detractors to resort instead to making vague and nebulous, unfounded criticisms about BTP's "style" or "tone".

Judging a book by its contents

"Thank you very much for sending us a copy of the book The Rival Positions in the IRM-GBC Controversy within ISKCON, edited by Rahul Peter Das.

The contribution of this book is appreciated and it will be an asset to our documentation centre.

The book will be publicized to subscribers of our trimestrial mailings by post, our e-mail list and posted on our internet site in the near future with a link to your web site.

Again, we thank you."

- Mike Kropveld, Executive Director, InfoCult, Montreal, Canada

"Thank you very much for sending a copy of the volume of 2006 documenting the official debate between the IRM and the GBC. I didn't know about the publication - interesting, gives deep insights! I appreciate your thinking of the EZW. With best wishes."

- Dr. Friedmann Eissler, Research Fellow, Evangelische Zentralstelle für Weltanschauungsfragen (EZW), Berlin, Germany

"I just want to read The Final Order for myself. I am not yet initiated, I have most of Prabhupada's books and love them!"

- Brenda Lee Riley, California, USA

ISKCON devotees need IRM to dispel guru hoax confusion

"We are all confused. Will you send The Final Order and 100 Contradictions: The life and teachings of His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami please? And any latest issues of Back To Prabhupada. Thank you."

- Nityananda Das, Lisbon, Portugal

"You can send me in English, I am from Mayapur and lived in Portugal.

I have a vegetarian restaurant and am a disciple of Bhakti Charu Swami and want to know everything about the GBC. We would like to have a centre in Lisbon for Prabhupada's preaching."

- Kamala Kanta Das, Lisbon, Portugal

"I would like to have all the is-

sues, also The Final Order. We are all very confused here in Portugal regarding the guru hoax. Some of them agree and some disagree. Want help."

- Maria Fernandez, Lisbon, Portugal

"Send me as much information regarding unbonafide gurus from ISKCON and what the GBC is doing please. Thanks."

- Mahalaxmi Devi Dasi, Porto, Portugal

"Please send as much info as you can, also issue 22-23. We would like to have a temple here in Portugal for Prabhupada's preaching."

- Rui Silva, Porto, Portugal

"Yes, we are in the platform of Krishna consciousness. But I don't believe that guru system is wrong. Still I need to understand the original instruction given by Srila Prabhupada with proper evidence as one devotee told me and gave me this card to send you for the books and magazine."

- Sri Chidananda Krishna Das Brahmachari, ISKCON Dhaka, Bangladesh

"I would like to know more about IRM and about the real guru. Please send me a copy of Back To Prabhupada magazine."

- S.K. Das, C/O ISKCON, Dharwad, India

"Haribol, all glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Very interested in what you have to say here. I am a regular attendant to Melbourne's ISKCON temple, but have been averse to taking diksa from any guru I have met in 30 years' association. I would love to read more on these vital topics. Hare Krsna!

Your servant and Srila Prabhupada's"

- Kia Yantra, Melbourne, Australia

"I would like to know the truth of Prabhupada."

- Satyamadhava Das, Hare Krishna Movement, Hyderabad, India

"Dear Prabhu,

Please help save ISKCON. Srila Prabhupada built a house in which the whole world can live but some miscreants want to destroy it, especially here in South Africa.

BTP Interactive (continued)

Please help, please help, please help."

- Rasheeka Mohanlal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

IRM brings truth and blessings

"Thanks for supporting the truth."

- Ramoll Bugwandeen, Durban, South Africa

"Thank you so much for your continued support of the search for truth. Hare Krsna."

- Vikneswaran s/o Manirajah, Kedah, Malaysia

"Dear Devotees,
Hare Krishna.

Obeisances to you all. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I have received BTP issue 28 and have read it cover to cover. I appreciate very much hearing the truth of what has happened and what is currently happening in ISKCON. Thank you for your valuable service. Hare Krishna."

- Richard House, Oklahoma, USA

"I want to know the real truth and the desires of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada."

- Pavitra Banik, Barisal, Bangladesh

"Hare Krishna, your service brought exposure of illegal gurus and I would like to join your squad. Please send me the valuable magazine to propagate the truth."

- A. Murali Krishna, S.V.U. College of Science, Tirupati, India

"The rascaldom to be condemned and the true acharya to be established for the welfare of the whole world. Cheaters cannot cheat eternally. The TRUTH will be REVEALED. Sincere followers will accept and follow!!! Jai Guru & Gauranga!"

- Sarala Devi K, Bangalore, India

"I like TRUTH."

- Jamiruddin Sheik, Navadvipa, India

"I would like to know the real desire of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada."

- Sree Arup Ratan Chowdhury, Dhaka, Bangladesh

"I want to know the truth."

- Mahendrasingh Seeburruth, Phoenix, Mauritius

"Dear Prabhu Krishnakant,
Hare Krishna! All glories to Guru and Gauranga. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I've been fascinated by, and in complete agreement with IRM since I read one of the BTP issues which accidentally came to my attention through a friend. In fact, I never really knew such a magazine existed. Frankly speaking, it's eye opening indeed to learn the underground nature of ISKCON. Very saddening, if only Prabhupada was here, I wonder how he would have reacted.

Please send me all back issues and the book The Final Order and also other IRM literatures if any. I thank you straight from my heart, respected sire, and also to all the devotees involved in bringing forth such a wonderful publication. BTP is a blessing - an illumination of The Real Truth. I'm glad I stumbled onto you and your IRM.

May I be able to receive all your previous publications. Looking forward in eager anticipation for your response. Once again, thank you for doing such a great work in this crazy world.

Keep up the noble work. May Lord Krsna shower His blessings unto you and IRM. Haribol!

Your Humble Servant"

- Balan, Ipoh, West Malaysia

IRM's brain attracts the soul

"I received the Portuguese BTP - De Volta A Prabhupada.

GBC committed offence to Prabhupada. Krsna can't tolerate guru hoaxers, of course the end is near. GBC secretly tried to block Prabhupada's final order. IRM has transcended brain and massacred GBC's false philosophy. Jai Krishna!"

- Rameshchandra Samgi, Lisbon, Portugal

"My heart is filled with devotion to Prabhupada. My soul is attracted towards ISKCON-IRM. My mind is being drawn through the spiritual programme of Hare Krishna written in the magazine."

- Kallash Chandra, Orissa, India

World Vaisnava Association writes

The following letter is from Krishna Bhakti Das, the World Vaisnava Association France Secretary, who signs off his letter as being a "disciple of Srila Prabhupada and Sripada Damodar Maharaj". Our response is interspersed between the author's statements below:

"Dear members of the IRM,

I come very humbly to your attention for asking you kindly, please stop your insults against vaishnavas who passed away, especially Gaur Govinda Maharaj and Sripada Damodar Maharaj.

Recently we had to face the great astonishment of professors and scientists in the USA who read about your insults against Dr T.D. Singh (Sripada Damodar Maharaj)."

It is interesting to note that the message of the IRM has reached far and wide, including US professors and scientists!

"They feel and do not understand these insults for Dr T.D. Singh always presented to them the unique figure of Srila Prabhupada as the one to whom were dedicated all his books, conferences, or cultural Manipur shows, as well as his Manipur ISKCON temple where Srila Prabhupada is highly respected."

It is actions, not words that matter. One can say anything. What matters is how one acts. A person may "dedicate" his words to Srila Prabhupada. But he needs to dedicate his life to Srila Prabhupada, and this is not done by usurping Srila Prabhupada's position as the guru. And it is a documented fact that the ISKCON successor gurus mentioned above have become so due to receiving GBC votes:

"1. That all GBC be nominated as candidates to become initiating Gurus with the requirement that they receive the blessings of 3/4 (three fourths) of the GBC members present to begin

their initiating role. There after the individual GBC men who are initiating will be responsible for recommending new candidates for initiating Guru from the godbrothers within their zone. These names must then receive the blessings of 3/4 (three fourths) of the majority of the GBC present at the annual meeting for them to begin their initiating roles.

The GBC shall prepare a paper elaborating this proposal.

2. The following GBC members will take on the responsibilities of initiating Guru:

1. His Holiness Pancadravida Swami.

2. His Holiness Bhakti Swarup Damodar Swami.

3. His Holiness Gopal Krsna Goswami."

(GBC resolutions, 27/2/1982)

"3. Gaura Govinda Swami is empowered to begin giving Diksa initiations, pending the approval of a 3-man committee appointed by the GBC Body."

(GBC resolution, 28/2/1985)

It will also be noted that both these resolutions were passed under the reign of the "zonal acarya" system ("The Great Guru Hoax", 1977-1986), which has been accepted even by the GBC as being a false system (see page 6). Thus, there is no dispute that these guru positions arose due to co-operating with a false regime and then patiently waiting for their blessings to join the guru hoax club. Srila Prabhupada only authorised that he remain the initiating guru of ISKCON via the *ritvik* system of initiations he established for ISKCON shortly before he departed. There is no record of him ordering that this system be replaced by guru successors.

"You well know you are using in many ways (internet, revues...) for years and years, words like 'CHEATERS' "



BTP Interactive (continued)

Given these facts above, to state that these guru successors are unauthorised, and are thereby perpetrating a hoax in claiming they are bona fide successor diksa gurus, is simply a statement of truth. Therefore, anyone who is actually acquainted with the facts of the situation, rather than just a "showbottle" performance and empty words, will fully understand the hypocrisy and cheating going on.

"I feel especially that devotees of Srila Prabhupada who have passed away must be saved from your insults, for it is not by such violent words people will feel well-being towards Srila Prabhupada, and love of his mission."

Statements of truth and fact, by definition, are not commissions of "violent words", otherwise we would have to banish truth, and this would be the opposite of propagating Krishna consciousness.

"Addressing Dr T.D. Singh (Bhakti Svarupa Damodar Maharaj) or Gaur Govinda Maharaj, these two who never criticised anyone. But you, you appointed yourselves a judge in a tribunal."

You have criticised us (falsely, as it happens) for perpetrating violence. So, by your own accusations, this would mean you have appointed yourself as a judge in a tribunal against us. No doubt you will claim that actually you are simply defending two persons from being misrepresented. But that is exactly what we have done, in that we are defending Srila Prabhupada from being misrepresented by those claiming to be his authorised guru successors. The only difference is that our defence is truthful, based on documented facts, whereas yours is not.

A Christian ex-pastor writes

"I am a Christian (and former pastor) who has really benefited from the writings of Srila Prabhupada. I am also a witness to the

pre-1977 and post-1977 ISKCON. [...] I also saw the radical change in ISKCON devotees after Prabhupada's passing. It was then that I noticed devotees with an incredible propensity for violence, which the media soon picked up on. So perhaps your book The Final Order would be a good place to start for an outsider such as myself who wants to know what happened to Prabhupada's movement. In the meantime, I am hoping it is ok to ask some questions given below."

- Kel McMahon, California, USA

"1) Is it possible for someone who chants the maha-mantra and follows the instructions of Prabhupada to go back to Godhead without ever receiving initiation?"

Editor replies:

Srila Prabhupada distinguishes between initiation, and the formalising of that initiation via a ceremony:

"So anyway, from 1922 to 1933 practically I was not initiated, but I got the impression of preaching Caitanya Mahaprabhu's cult. That I was thinking. And that was the initiation by my Guru Maharaja."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 10/12/1976)

"Initiation is a formality. If you are serious, that is real initiation. [...] My touch is simply a formality. It is your determination, that is initiation."

(Srila Prabhupada, "The Search for the Divine", *Back To Godhead*)

"The chanting of Hare Krsna is our main business, that is real initiation. And as you are all following my instruction, in that matter, the initiator is already there."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 19/8/1968)

"Well, initiation or no initiation, first thing is knowledge... knowledge. Initiation is formality. Just like you go to a school for knowledge, and admission is formality. That is not very important thing."

(Srila Prabhupada Interview, 16/10/1976)

"Faith means firm conviction that "If I become transcendently engaged in the service of the Lord, then my life becomes successful." This is called faith. And that conviction must be firm, not tottering faith. So when this faith is created, then actually the initiation begins. [...] So this firm conviction is the beginning of initiation. [...] So initiation means to be engaged in that Brahman activities. [...] So *adau sraddha*, when one becomes firmly convinced that "By becoming Krsna conscious or being engaged in the transcendental loving service of Krsna, my life is successful, life will be successful," that is the beginning of Krsna consciousness, or initiation."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 29/7/1968)

"A disciple means one who is always following the orders of the spiritual master. So I instruct my disciples to refrain from four prohibitions, namely no eating of meat, fish or eggs, no illicit sex life, no taking of intoxication, including tea, coffee, cigarettes, etc., and no gambling. Besides that my students must chant sixteen rounds of *japa-mala* of Hare Krsna mantra daily. So if you are able to follow these principles without fail, then you are as good as my disciple. And after you have practiced these things for a few months' time, then we can see to your formal initiation."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 11/8/1972)

And he further states:

"In other words, the chanting of the Hare Krsna *maha-mantra* is so powerful that it does not depend on official initiation, [...] The offenseless chanting of the holy name does not depend on the initiation process. Although initiation may depend on *purascarya* or *purascarana*, the actual chanting of the holy name does not depend

on *purascarya-vidhi*, or the regulative principles. If one chants the holy name once without committing an offense, he attains all success."

(Srila Caitanya-caritamṛta, *Madhya-lila*, 15:108, purport)

From this we can understand that those who are fully surrendered to following Srila Prabhupada's orders can chant offenselessly and can achieve success in Krishna consciousness even without an official initiation ceremony.

"2) What are Srila Prabhupada's official instructions concerning his Godbrothers? I know that after Prabhupada's passing many devotees who became disillusioned with ISKCON linked up with some of his Godbrothers."

Editor replies:

There is no instruction from Srila Prabhupada where he has asked us to take shelter of his Godbrothers. On the contrary, he warned us *against* doing this:

"Actually amongst my Godbrothers no one is qualified to become *acarya*. So it is better not to mix with my Godbrothers very intimately because instead of inspiring our students and disciples they may sometimes pollute them. This attempt was made previously by them, especially Madhava Maharaja and Tirtha Maharaja and Bon Maharaja but somehow or other I saved the situation. This is going on. We shall be very careful about them and not mix with them. This is my instruction to you all. They cannot help us in our movement, but they are very competent to harm our natural progress. So we must be very careful about them."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 28/4/1974)

"So I have now issued orders that all my disciples should avoid all of my godbrothers. They should not have any dealings with them nor even correspondence, nor should they

BTP Interactive (continued)

give them any of my books, nor should they purchase any of their books, neither should you visit any of their temples. Please avoid them”.

(Srla Prabhupada Letter, 9/11/1975)

Also, I would suggest you go to our homepage at www.iskconirm.com, and look at all the replies under the heading “Replies to Gaudiya Matha”, which can be found within the matrix of challengers. There are many papers there rebutting arguments made by Gaudiya Matha supporters, who are followers of Srila Prabhupada’s Godbrothers.

Preaching to ISKCON

“Krishnakant and group, you all are doing a great job. Greater still is to start temples (ritvik) to preach to the public since the western perpetrators would not give up the hoax because of the last snare of maya - ‘name, fame, adoration’. These Kalichelas will die with their boots on.”
- Krishna Smaranam Das, Alachua, Florida, USA

Editor replies:

1) We should firstly note that this is not a racial issue as there are not only Western perpetrators of the hoax, but there are also many persons perpetrating the guru hoax who are not Westerners. Maya (the illusory energy) does not discriminate on the basis of race!

2) It is a fact that the mission of the IRM is to reach out to those who have already decided to follow Srila Prabhupada but are being cheated in his name by those claiming to represent him, rather than preaching to the general public. We are the only organisation which is actively doing this work all over the world. Even if you feel the guru hoaxers themselves may not give up the hoax, their followers and supporters can still be persuaded. For example, we can note that you yourself also once helped to perpetrate the hoax, having taken initiation from a guru hoaxer. But you

have given it up due to the IRM’s preaching. Similarly, others can also be persuaded to give it up.

3) And indeed we are continuing to find success in this mission as the thousands of letters we have received attest, some of which we feature in every issue. And we have also documented how ISKCON itself is continuing to adopt the IRM’s position via their various philosophical climbdowns instigated by the IRM’s preaching. Therefore, we are concentrating our limited resources on this mission of helping the victims of the guru hoax via literature distribution, rather than opening temples for the public. Clearly, when there are so many persons who already wish to be devotees but are being cheated in doing so, our priority is to help them.

The hijacking of ISKCON

“My original introduction to the Hare Krishna Movement was in 1973, when I was 17. I attended the original Brooklyn, New York temple, which was in a brownstone building. The Sunday kirtan and feast were beautiful, as were the devotees. I find it shocking and disgraceful that ISKCON has been hijacked by such evil people, but I want to return to Krishna Consciousness.”

- Tim McMillan, Florida, USA

Editor replies:

Yes, fortunately the hijacking of ISKCON does not in any way prevent us from following Srila Prabhupada’s orders correctly, becoming Krishna conscious, going back to Godhead and thus making our life successful. So it is wonderful to hear that you wish to return to Krishna consciousness.

Guru and acarya

“I don’t understand exactly the difference between guru and acarya - what is it? As well as Vaisnava. I know Prabhupada was all of these. He said he was insignificant at the feet of his master Bhaktisiddhanta.

So it’s logical that he did not appoint a successor. The final order is an injunction. One cannot speculate about it – just as Jesus said “Thou shalt not kill” (can’t speculate about it).

Jaya Prabhupada!”

(Translated from French)

- Jean-Marie Gadonneix, Paris, France

Editor replies:

You are correct that Srila Prabhupada was – and is – guru, *acarya* and Vaisnava par excellence. The *diksa* guru or spiritual master who connects us to Krishna is also called an *acarya*:

“One should know the *acarya* as Myself and never disrespect him in any way. One should not envy him, thinking him an ordinary man, for he is the representative of all the demigods! [...] The spiritual master is also called *acarya*, or a transcendental professor of spiritual science. [...] Only out of His immense compassion does the Personality of Godhead reveal Himself as the spiritual master. Therefore in the dealings of an *acarya* there are no activities but those of transcendental loving service to the Lord. He is the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead [...] The bona fide spiritual master always engages in unalloyed devotional service to the Supreme Personality of Godhead. By this test he is known to be a direct manifestation of the Lord and a genuine representative of Sri Nityananda Prabhu. Such a spiritual master is known as *acaryadeva*.”

(Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Ad-Ilā, 1.46)

Anyone who is a bona fide *diksa* guru in the *parampara* (disciplic succession) will also, therefore, be an *acarya*.

Anyone who preaches, regardless of their qualification, may be referred to as a “guru”, even though they may not necessarily be an *acarya*:

“Even a child like Sarasvati, she can preach. Then what to

say of others? Those who are educated, grown-up, advanced, they can put the matter more nicely, more convincingly, more philosophically. That is another thing. But these three words, that “Kṛṣṇa is the Supreme Lord; you are servant; and chant Hare Kṛṣṇa” -- *bas*, preaching complete. Very simple thing and the sublime instruction. Everyone can become guru by simply teaching these three words.”

(Srla Prabhupada Conversation, 25/1/1977)

What’s the difference?

“I do not understand the differences which set you apart...Is not the principle to turn towards Krishna and His servant Srila Prabhupada?”

(Translated from French)

- Laurent Salles, Ruille-sur-Loir, France

Editor replies:

Yes, you have correctly answered your own question! While the IRM is turning towards Krishna’s servant Srila Prabhupada, for the past 35 years ISKCON has been turning away from Srila Prabhupada and towards guru hoaxers. That is the difference which sets us apart. However, due to the indefatigable preaching of the IRM around the world, we are witnessing a huge shift from the “rank-and-file” devotees away from the guru hoaxers and back to Prabhupada, with even the GBC and its guru hoaxers now steering in that direction as well.

Only Srila Prabhupada as guru can restore ISKCON’s glory

“By the mercy of Srila Prabhupada and all Vaisnavas, I know that Prabhupada is a bona fide guru. So if one wishes to gain Kṛṣṇa Prema (pure love of Krishna), he should take shelter of his lotus feet according to sastra (scripture). Hare Krishna.

Vaisnava dasanudas.”

- Sudharam Das, Vice President, ISKCON Silchar, Assam, India



BTP Interactive (continued)

"Dear Krishnakant Prabhu,
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. Hare Krsna.

As real ISKCON is not yet re-established, you can only deal with it (defeat the nescient nonsense of it...) when you are ready and the real ISKCON re-established. Please forgive my offenses. Wish you continued success."

- Svarupa Damodara Das, Dowra, Ireland

"Hare Krishna. ISKCON GBC should restore the lost glory of ISKCON by restoring Srila Prabhupada as the Real Guru for the Society. Let us hope that good sense would prevail upon the GBC."

- SMT Subasini Mishra, Arunachal Pradesh, India

"Please save the bad gurus from themselves!"

- Larry N. Malu, New York, USA

"Swami Prabhupada's teachings have taken me on many journeys to the highest spiritual universes. Hare Krsna."

- Rubysundrie Ramien Reddy, Germiston, South Africa

"We are devotees of Krishna. We feel ISKCON should be re-established as it was under Prabhupada's presence. Haribol."

- Vijay Solanki, Leicester, England

"Srila Prabhupada is Jagad-Guru. He is ever present in his instructions. Anyone authorized to initiate disciples into the ISKCON Bhakti cult can only do so on His Divine Grace's behalf. There is no other way.

No one can assume Prabhupada's mantle. He is the jewel ornament on Lord Krishna's lotus feet. We are but dust - a disciple of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami."

- Mark Haley, Laguna Beach, USA

Keep up the good work

"Keep up the good work! Your servant,"

- Locanananda Das, New York, USA

"Please keep the movement as Srila Prabhupada desired. It should not be changed. Srila Prabhupada

Ki Jai."

- Mrs. Vijaya Tuli, Middlesex, England

"You are doing a very important job and good service. Keep up your work with the blessings of Lord Krishna."

- Swarnakaran V., Kanyakumari, India

"All glories to our most beloved Srila Prabhupada!

Dear servants of Prabhupada,
Thank you so very much for the wonderful work you are doing. Thank you very much for your kindness. Aspiring once again to become a servant of SRILA PRABHUPADA."

- K.M. Bhagarette, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

"Hare Krishna, thanks for the free subscription. I'm really concerned about what has happened to ISKCON and I hope things get brought back to the way Srila Prabhupada wanted."

- Aaron Matthew Thomason, Nashville, USA

"Yes, thank you, I very much appreciate your time and effort in the distribution of BTP."

- Dennis DeSmeth, Texas, USA

"All glories to Prabhupada, just to say I have received BTP Issue 30, Winter 2010/2011. The article about Dina-vatsala Das coming back to Prabhupada was very good and, as usual, Bhakti Charu turned out to be a bad smell.

Thank you once again. Keep it up."

- Naran Hirani, London, England

"I just 'discovered' your magazine, and I very much appreciate its content, and your service in publishing it. Any (all) "back" issues would be very much appreciated!"

- Jim Warren/Jambavan Das, North Carolina, USA

"This BTP magazine has been delivering Krishna-katha (glorification of Krishna) and ISKCON's mission to the devotees. It also advises on Prabhupada's will as Mahaprabhu's fellowship."

- Parindra Chakraborty, Michigan, USA

"I read BTP and I know the real guru is Srila Prabhupada. Jai Srila

Prabhupada Ki Jai."

- Manoj Kumar Verma, Bihar, India

"Brilliant magazine for instruction."

- Fiona Fellendo, Lincoln, England

"Great mag, Prabhu. Thank you for your love for Srila Prabhupada. Jai Srila Prabhupada."

- Premananda Bel, Sri Mayapur, West Bengal, India

"Let me know how to contribute meaningfully to your project!"

- Banymandhub Raj, St. Pierre, Mauritius

"I got an opportunity to read the BTP magazine in my friend's house and came to know more about Shri Srila Prabhupada and Hare Krishna movement. Kindly send me the above copies and include me in the mailing list."

- K.M. Tripathi, Uttar Pradesh, India

"Very informative work. Out of the darkness of obscurity, a flash of illumination.

If only all traditions could "clean house" ... lead the way!"

- S. Jason Pickels, Evansville, USA

"Please send this magazine which is very much needed to get more knowledge about Krishna."

- Uttam Biswas, Gopalganj, Bangladesh

"Thanks, received BTP Issue 30, Winter 2010-11. It has inspired me.

Reading the contents, the articles and letters give a clear picture of Guru & disciple. I wish ISKCON would be run as Srila Prabhupada desired."

- Sanjeev Bilani, Pune, India

"I would like to know more about BTP magazine news, keep me posted. I have been practising Krishna consciousness for 12 years. Thanks for the enlightenment, Hare Krishna! Your servant"

- Giridhari, Nairobi, Kenya

"Please accept my most humble obeisances at your feet. I have received the latest issue. It is very good progress. His Divine Grace very much appreciated the article. BTP is really an enlightening magazine which encourages worship of Sri Krishna through Srila Prabhupada.

I agree with this movement, Srila Prabhupada is the only genuine guru. Haribol!"

- Prabhat Kumar, West Bengal, India

"HARE KRSNA Krishnakant prabhu. Thank you for the copy of The Final Order that you will send to me. As you told me, now that I'm properly situated with His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, I'm getting a clear vision (through the help of all of you by reading the BTP magazine regularly) of the way back to SRILA PRABHUPADA.

I'm glad to see the truth come out even if the new ISKCON generation don't know yet that only His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada is the bona fide diksa guru for the next 9500 years of Kali-yuga. Jai prabhu, thank you for keeping me updated about our beloved acarya.

All glories to your service. Dandavats. Thank you very much for your sanga (association) and blessing. Haribol!"

- Seva Das, London, England

"Thank you very much for your valuable service. I liked BTP very much. Hare Krishna.

Your servant"

- Bhanumati Keshavji, Sussex, England

"Please send all issues. Want to know more about... Bhakti Charu Swami."

- Devaki Nanda Das, Malaga, Spain

"I read a friend's magazine, very informative, would like to know more. Hare Krishna."

- Roychand Takhoor, Natal, South Africa

"THANK YOU dear IRM devotees!! Dear Prabhupada guru and Sri-Sri Radha-Krishna will bless you all in his and our service for all living entities!

Hare Krishna and Hari Bol!!"

- Bhakta Sergio Mastrapasqua, Bari, Italy

"Thanks a lot for your kindness. I hope the entire world wakes up to the supreme truth - the only way to bring about divine law and divine justice."

- Gavino Sanna, London, UK

"I can kill my guru and I become guru."

We have documented numerous times, in copious detail in *BTP* and our other publications, that following the inauguration of the Great Guru Hoax, what occurred in ISKCON from 1978 onwards was that Srila Prabhupada's position was usurped by many guru hoaxes. This means, as explained in the editorial, that the "falldown" of ISKCON's guru hoaxes had already occurred as soon as they attempted to usurp Srila Prabhupada's position as *diksa* guru of ISKCON. If they then later get caught breaking their initiation vows, this is merely a further fall from the most serious falldown of attempting to "kill guru" by occupying his position without authorisation. The irony, therefore, is that guru hoaxes who manage to not get caught breaking their initiation vows appear to have not "fallen", whereas the reality is the exact opposite - since there appears to be no reason for removing them from their false guru positions, they manage to remain in their already fallen positions. Srila Prabhupada explains below how unauthorisedly occupying the position of one's guru is a very great spiritual transgression.

Guru usurpers very dangerous Fate of guru usurpers

"Our mission is to serve bhakta-visesa and live with devotees. Not that you take the place of the guru. That is nonsense, very dangerous. Then everything will be spoiled. As soon as you become ambitious to take the place of guru-gurusu nara-matih. That is the material disease." (Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 20/4/1977, emphasis added)

"One cannot attain perfection without smearing the dust from the lotus feet of an exalted devotee on his head. If one always follows the orders of the spiritual master, there is no question of falling down. As soon as a foolish disciple tries to overtake his spiritual master and becomes ambitious to occupy his post, he immediately falls down. Yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado yasyaprasadan na gatih kuto'pi" ("By satisfaction of the spiritual master, the Supreme Personality of Godhead becomes satisfied. And by not satisfying the spiritual master, there is no chance of being promoted to the plane of Kṛṣṇa consciousness"). (Srimad-Bhagavatam, 5.12.14, emphasis added)

"I am practically seeing that as soon as they begin to learn a little Sanskrit immediately they feel that they have become more than their guru and then the policy is kill guru and be killed himself" (Srila Prabhupada Letter, 18/9/1976, emphasis added)

"There is one Bengali proverb, guru-mara-vidya. "Guru, you learn from him first of all, then kill him. Don't care for guru." This is demonic" (Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 4/10/1976, emphasis added)

"These rogues are the most dangerous elements in human society. Because there is no religious government, they escape punishment by the law of the state. They cannot, however, escape the law of the Supreme, who has clearly declared in the Bhagavad-Gita that envious demons in the garb of religious propagandists shall be thrown into the darkest regions of hell (Bg. 16.19-20). Sri Isopanisad confirms that these pseudo religionists are heading toward the most obnoxious place in the universe after the completion of their spiritual master business, which they conduct simply for sense gratification." (Sri Isopanisad, Mantra 12, purport, emphasis added)

Gaudiya Matha example

"But just after his passing away, his leading secretaries made plans, without authority, to occupy the post of acarya, and they split in two factions over who the next acarya would be. Consequently, both factions were asara, or useless, because they had no authority, having disobeyed the order of the spiritual master." (Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Adi-līla, 12:8, purport, emphasis added)

"Why this Gaudiya Matha failed? Because they tried to become more than guru. He, before passing away, he gave all direction and never said that "This man should be the next acarya." [...] They declared some unfit person to become acarya. Then another man came, then another, acarya, another acarya. So better remain a

foolish person perpetually to be directed by Guru Maharaja. That is perfection. And as soon as he learns the Guru Maharaja is dead, "Now I am so advanced that I can kill my guru and I become guru." Then he's finished." (Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 16/8/1976, emphasis added)

"There are some of my Godbrothers here in India, who had constant personal association with Guru Maharaja, but who are neglecting his orders. This is just like the bug who is sitting on the lap of the king. He may be very puffed-up by his position but all he can succeed in doing is biting the king." (Srila Prabhupada Letter, 20/2/1972)

Warnings for ISKCON against guru usurpers

Bhavananda: "There will be men, I know. There will be men who want to try and pose themselves as guru."

Tamala Krishna: "That was going on many years ago. Your Godbrothers were thinking like that. Madhava Maharaja..."

Bhavananda: "Oh, yes. Oh, ready to jump."

Prabhupada: "Very strong management required and vigilant observation." (Conversation, 27/5/1977)

"Kirtanananda is a crazy man. That is proved. He says that he has become equal to the spiritual master but he is such a fool that he does not understand the principle of discipline even in ordinary worldly affairs. Even if one becomes equal to the spiritual master in education and knowledge, still one has to maintain the disciplinary princi-

ple of obeying one chief man in any establishment. If such a discipline is not maintained, no establishment can make any progress."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 9/11/1967)

"Unfortunately, when the acarya disappears, rogues and non-devotees take advantage and immediately begin to introduce unauthorized principles in the name of so-called svamis, yogis, philanthropists, welfare workers and so on. [...] The acarya, the authorized representative of the Supreme Lord, establishes these principles, but when he disappears, things once again become disordered. The perfect disciples of the acarya try to relieve the situation by sincerely following the instructions of the spiritual master." (Srimad-Bhagavatam, 4.28.48, purport)

"So the cheaters are there. If our men are cheated, if they agree to be cheated, how can I stop them? In Vṛndavana also they have done like that, the babajis. [...] So you can publish this in our Back to Godhead. These things are going on. Devotees should be very careful not to be victimized by this cheater."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation about bogus guru, 25/4/1977)

Note: As seen here, previously Srila Prabhupada wanted his *Back To Godhead* magazine to warn ISKCON devotees about the danger of them being cheated by guru usurpers from outside ISKCON. Today, since these usurpers are unfortunately within ISKCON itself, *Back To Prabhupada* is required to carry on this work of warning devotees to be careful not to be victimised by the guru hoaxer cheaters inside ISKCON.



Quotes, Notes and News (QNN)

IRM's Russian impact

ISKCON Russia has produced a lengthy (172 pages) official "Bhakti Program Manual" which is given to all new recruits joining the movement. It is listed as being produced by the "Vaisnava University", and is in Russian. The contents of this manual provide further evidence of the impact the IRM is having all over the world. The manual devotes a whole section to listing the different kinds of "problems" ISKCON has experienced, but only one problem, which is described as a "most pressing problem", is analysed in detail in the manual. The one "problem" which they select to highlight above all others is "ritvik-vada". This appears in chapter 11. ISKCON has been pushed into taking such a measure due to the work of the IRM in translating, printing and distributing various literatures all over the former Soviet Union, from Siberia all the way to the Ukraine. For the IRM are the only ones preaching in the Russian language about Srila Prabhupada's real instructions for initiation and other issues, which we have been doing since the late 1990s.

The manual gives a completely false picture regarding what the IRM actually preaches, hoping this will inoculate ISKCON members from the truth as presented by the IRM. It uses three deceptive tactics that ISKCON always uses when trying to deal with the IRM, since our points cannot be rebutted, being as they are, quoted directly from Srila Prabhupada:

a) Misrepresenting our position. For example, it claims that our position relies on Srila Prabhupada's May 28th, 1977 conversation. But we have not claimed our position relies on this conversation, any more than we have claimed that it depends on the word "henceforward" in Srila Prabhupada's July 9th, 1977 directive to all GBCs and Temple Presidents.

Yet such misrepresentations have been deliberately trotted out for years, since ISKCON is unable to respond to what our position actually depends on.

b) Claiming the IRM's position can be countered using false statements, which are presented without any evidence for the same. For example, it states that "ritvik-vada" "contradicts siddhanta" (scriptural conclusions). But this is simply stated without any attempt made to offer evidence for the same.

c) Then for good measure, in keeping with the recent "climb-down" trend which we have documented in recent years, the manual ends up stating the same position as the IRM, completely contradicting its earlier conclusions! For it states that **"Srila Prabhupada eternally remains the guru-liberator for all the generations of devotees in ISKCON"**. But this means that Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* (initiating) guru, and there is therefore no need for ISKCON's guru hoaxers:

"The spiritual master initiates the disciple to deliver him, and if the disciple executes the order of the spiritual master and does not offend other Vaisnavas, his path is clear."

(*Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya-līla*, 1:218, purport, emphasis added)

This is why when devotees actually get to read our materials for themselves, they find that ISKCON has no answers for the points which are made there. This is also why, for example, we see how in the following story guru hoaxer HH Sivarama Swami reminded the Hungarian devotees that they are threatened with "severe sanctions" if they even dare to read BTP.

But you cannot rely on keeping people in the dark forever, for eventually the truth will come out!

Karma and hypocrisy

The following actions were directed against those who advocate belief in Srila Prabhupada as the guru of ISKCON:

a) They are forbidden from advocating this belief even in their own homes, or they will be banned from the temple.¹

b) Anyone caught even reading literature advocating such a belief will be the subject of serious sanctions.²

c) They are liable to being beaten up.³

d) Persons caught distributing literature advocating such a belief were indeed subject to violence and death threats.⁴

Clearly these actions are **"about repression not freedom"**, discriminate against those practising Krishna consciousness in their own homes, and seek to make them feel inferior.

Actions a) and b) were threatened by **HH Sivarama Swami ("SRS")**, while c) and d) came from his followers in Hungary. Yet we find that HH Sivarama Swami is now complaining that the Hungarian government are enacting laws against his movement in Hungary which are: **"about repression not freedom"** (*ISKCON News*, 23/12/2011), and which seek to curtail *their* right **"to practise in their homes without discrimination, without being made to feel inferior to others"** (SRS, Podcast, 28/12/2011).

Indeed, all over the world, ISKCON, which has been engaging in a campaign of repression against those who advocate the exclusive worship of Srila Prabhupada, has itself complained that they are sometimes the subject of actions by governments and others which are acts of repression against them. If one finds oneself having to combat repression, having first engaged in it oneself, this should not be surprising since Srila Prabhupada teaches that this is the law of *karma*:

"Karma-jam means whenever there is action there will be some reaction. If one acts in badness, there will be a bad reaction."

(*Kṛṣṇa: The Reservoir of Pleasure*)

SRS also claims that the response to such repression is for them to **"stand up for our rights, and be determined, vocal, strong and unyielding in our determination to achieve what is right."** (SRS Podcast, 28/12/2011). Yet when the IRM does exactly what SRS states here in standing up for its right against the repression it faces from SRS and others, their response is *threats, sanctions and violence* against the IRM. Thus, they want to do unto others that which they do not want done unto them (repression), but they want to do that which they prevent others from doing (standing up for their rights). This is sheer hypocrisy, which is a key characteristic of those under the influence of *Kali-Yuga*, the age in which we live:

"Hypocrisy, simply hypocrisy. Kali means full of hypocrisy."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 26/11/1966)

¹ ISKCON UK headquarters, Bhaktivedanta Manor, issued letters banning those who advocated belief in Srila Prabhupada as the guru even "at home", and these letters were a result of "the desire of the local ISKCON, UK Charity Board of Directors, chaired by His Holiness Sivarama Swami". (Quoted from banning letter).

² "Therefore *ritviks* and their literature should be ignored [...]. The tone of the above law makes it quite clear that persons who are in breach of it can expect to be the object of serious sanctions."

(SRS Letter to all devotees, 17/7/2008)

³ Devotee: "I also had another question. When we meet these devotees, should we start arguing with them, should we beat them up? I'm sorry to say that but it came up amongst the devotees."

(SRS *Istagasthi*, Budapest, 17/7/2008)

⁴ Violence and death threats documented on the IRM website:

www.iskconirm.com

Guru wars expose multi-guru hoax

In *BTP* 17, we quoted the following GBC lie stated by GBC member Badrinarayan Das:

"Srla Prabhupada started something revolutionary; a multi-guru system all serving under a governing body."

(Badrinarayan Das, GBC, "Report from the Parallel Lines of Authority Committee", 7/7/2007)

This lie was repeated one year later by ISKCON Communications Director and GBC member Anuttama Das, as we quoted in *BTP* 23:

"Srla Prabhupada gave a very clear structure specifically for ISKCON as a multi-guru society."

(Anuttama Das, ISKCON Communications Director, *ISKCON News Weekly*, 25/10/2008)

We say that both of these statements are lies based on Srla Prabhupada never having authorized any guru successor, let alone "a multi-guru society". Ironically, this fact is accepted by the GBC, who agreed with the following confession by ISKCON GBC-elected guru HH Jayadvaita Swami:

"Is this an outright fabrication or not? That Srla Prabhupada personally detailed the procedure for increasing the number of initiating guru[s] is something we can only wish. Or falsely tell the Society he did."

(HH Jayadvaita Swami, email to the GBC, 13/12/2003)

As we detail here, the mere existence of so many multiple guru hoaxers is itself leading to the guru hoax exposing itself.

Guru is one

Srla Prabhupada explains that the guru is one since his message is the same:

"The guru may be this person or that, but the message is the same; therefore it is said that guru is one."

(*Science of Self Realization*, "What Is a Guru?")

Therefore, if all the ISKCON gurus were actually representing the same teachings of Srla Pra-

bhupada, then in theory there would be no disagreement between them. (Even agreement would not necessarily mean they are representing Srla Prabhupada, since they could still be in agreement with each other in their deviation!)

Guru is many!

However, the guru hoaxers are unable to represent the same message, whatever that may be, since they continually contradict and attack each other. We have already cited many examples of this in previous issues, such as:

- *BTP* 2: HH Bhakti Vikash Swami and HH Bhakti Tirtha Swami attacking each other.

- *BTP* 5: HH Sivarama Swami attacking HH Jayapataka Swami.

- *BTP* 5: HH Indradyumna Swami attacking HH Jayapataka Swami.

- *BTP* 6: HH Suhotra Swami attacking the GBC.

- *BTP* 8: HH Danavir Goswami attacking HH Hridayananda Das Goswami.

- *BTP Special Summary Issue 1*: HH Jayadvaita Swami attacking ISKCON gurus.

- *BTP* 10: HH Jayadvaita Swami attacking the GBC.

- *BTP* 14: HH Prahladananda Swami attacking the GBC and ISKCON gurus.

- *BTP* 16: HG Ravindra Svarupa Das attacking ISKCON, the GBC, ISKCON *sannyasis* and ISKCON gurus.

- *BTP* 29: HH Mahavishnu Swami attacking ISKCON, the GBC and ISKCON gurus.

- *BTP* 30: HH Prahladananda Swami attacking ISKCON *sannyasis*.

- *BTP* 31: HG Kripamoya Das and HH Bhakti Charu Swami contradicting each other.

- *BTP* 31: HG Sankarsana Das and HH Jayadvaita Swami contradicting each other.

- *BTP's* 100 Contradictions book:

HH Bhakti Charu Swami contradicting the GBC and other ISKCON gurus.

- *BTP's* 100 Deviations book: HH Sivarama Swami contradicting the GBC and other ISKCON gurus.

Guru wars continue

To these internecine attacks we can now add the following:

HH Danavir Goswami attacking HH Sivarama Swami

HH Danavir Goswami:

"It is my contention that an ISKCON guru must fully participate in the temple morning program each day lest he disqualifies himself to be a guru. [...] After some time however if that devotee, now guiding disciples, relaxes his *sadhana* due to "being advanced," or to "preaching," or some other reason, is it not a fly in the ointment? [...] Such devotees may have capabilities as speakers, managers, etc., yet they should not take the position of initiating gurus because that requires one to act as an example for his *sisyas*. If the guru is unable to daily attend the morning program, it is probably a good time for him to defer from initiating more disciples until he recovers."

(HH Danavir Goswami, "Guru in the morning" article, published 19/11/2011)

HH Sivarama Swami:

"I can go back to the morning program - attending *mangala-arati*, chanting *japa* with devotees who are leading the temple room while they're chanting *japa*, dressing Radhe Shyama, and giving class and *kirtan*, and something that two years, two and-a-half years I've been, except for festivals, I've hardly been doing it."

(HH Sivarama Swami, Podcast, 28/11/2011)

[Note: HH Sivarama Swami initiated disciples during this period as normal].

HH Bhakti Vikash Swami attacking HH Radhanath Swami

"There's a book* [...] written by one of the, probably the most, popular leaders within ISKCON today - now that book, I can't help thinking if you'd shown it to Srla Prabhupada he would not have been at all pleased, because there are pictures of all these *mayavadis* and mundane people, [...] and there's not a bad word about any of them. People that Prabhupada if he spoke about them at all would criticize them. [...] And at the end of the book he says that now having come to Prabhupada, now I'm engaged in helping with hospitals and feeding children and eye camps. [...] So as I see it there are serious problems with that [...] if anyone read that book hundreds of thousands of times, they'd never even get the idea that you're supposed to surrender to Krishna, that Krishna is the Supreme Personality of Godhead [...] some erotic or almost erotic scenes [...] it's not the duty of a *sannyasi* to write about such things. [...] I just can't imagine what Prabhupada's response would have been if he saw that book, but our movement has changed, it's not for the better".

(HH Bhakti Vikash Swami, Lecture, 24/8/2011)

*The Journey Home by Radhanath Swami

Conclusion

The spectacle of these guru wars alone makes it clear that we do not have a multi-guru society expanding forth from Srla Prabhupada, with all the gurus representing his message. Rather, we simply have a group of hoaxers, with each inventing his own ideas, leading naturally to this mass contradiction between them.

"I am not stealing!"

The following quotations in the shaded panels come from a lecture given by guru hoaxer **HH Bir Krishna Goswami ("BKG")** at an initiation ceremony he was performing on 25/12/2011 at ISKCON Hillsborough, North Carolina, USA.

BKG'S *ritvik* initiations

Srila Prabhupada is *diksa* guru

"However, as Srila Prabhupada is the primary source of *siksha*, inspiration, a focal point for devotion, he's the personality who connects us, all of us, me, you, all of us to the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Krishna, because he was sent by Krishna from the spiritual world."

BKG explains that the relationship between those to whom he is giving initiation and Srila Prabhupada, is the same as his own relationship to Srila Prabhupada, which is that Srila Prabhupada connects them to Krishna, which is what the *diksa* guru does:

"And if you get a bona fide spiritual master, he will take you to Krsna."

(*The Laws of Nature*, Chapter 1)

The initiation connects one to Srila Prabhupada

"by taking initiation you're connecting with Prabhupada. And my personal request is that you develop a personal relationship with Prabhupada by regularly hearing from Prabhupada, hearing about Prabhupada, worshipping Prabhupada. Prabhupada will appear in your dreams."

BKG explains that the initiation he is giving is non-different to a *ritvik* initiation on behalf of Srila Prabhupada, whereby the initiation connects the initiate directly to Srila Prabhupada, and the initiate is then able to have a direct, personal relationship with Srila Prabhupada.

Initiator and initiate connected with Srila Prabhupada in the same way

"So uh, so you may say that I was fortunate you know, I got in contact with Srila Prabhupada, I saw Srila Prabhupada, etc., etc., but you're all just as fortunate because a pure devotee is manifest in the most important way in terms of his *vani*. [...] You have these MP3 players, you have computers, you can keep in contact and be with Prabhupada practically 24 hours a day. [...] It's a personal relationship, because in the spiritual world, [...] when we go back Prabhupada will be there. And he is there. And then we'll all be part of the same family, Prabhupada's associates in the spiritual world. So for me, that's everything."

Underscoring the points just made, BKG further emphasises that following the initiation ceremony, the initiate will develop his personal relationship with Srila Prabhupada in exactly the same way he does, and Srila Prabhupada's physical absence is immaterial.

Part of a trend

The above description mirrors the one we detailed HH Bhakti Charu Swami ("BCS") giving in relation to the initiations he recently gave to devotees (please see *BTP* 32, "Bhakti Charu Swami's *ritvik* initiations"). There, as here, it was explained that the result of getting an initiation by an ISKCON guru is that the initiate ends up with a relationship to Srila Prabhupada that is identical to that which resulted from the many *ritvik* initiations conducted on behalf of Srila Prabhupada during his physical appearance on the planet. Thus, more and more, ISKCON's guru hoaxers are themselves admitting that the initiation they provide is no different to a *ritvik* initiation, and that they are actual-

ly functioning as *ritviks*. But they insist on one big key difference - that the initiate should still worship and regard them as "good as God" *diksa* gurus - since that, after all, is the name of the game: to garner the benefits of pretending to be a *diksa* guru, even if one is only a *ritvik*, due to one's desire for profit, adoration and distinction (the "PAD" phenomenon mentioned in the last issue).

"I am not a *ritvik*!"

Despite BKG's admissions above, he makes a point of stating at the outset of the lecture the following unprompted declaration:

"That doesn't mean that I'm advocating *ritvik* philosophy where, you know I'm definitely giving initiation."

He has to disclose he is not advocating the "*ritvik* philosophy" (that Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* guru). This is yet another trend which we have covered in previous *BTP* issues, where guru hoaxers make a point of disclosing, unprompted, that they are *not* proposing the "*ritvik*" position:

"don't think anyone's gonna charge me for being a *ritvik* ..."

(HH Sivarama Swami ("SRS"), Lecture, 11/1/2009)

"the *ritvik-vadis* [...] they'll probably love this one! But [...] *ritvik-vadis* [...] I'm not supporting that as a solution,"

(HH Bhakti Vikash Swami ("BVKS"), Lecture, 24/8/2011)

And in each case, the guru hoaxers *do* actually advocate the IRM's position, as documented: in BKG's case above; for SRS in *BTP* 23, "GBC climbdown continues - 1"; and for BVKS in *BTP* 33, "ISKCON guru follows *BTP*'s lead".

"I am not stealing!"

Srila Prabhupada explains that when one makes a point of offering unprompted denials it is actu-

ally an admission of the very assertion they are trying to deny:

"Just like one man was stealing from the room, and there were some sounds, and the master of the house said 'Who is there? What is that sound?' The man said, 'No, I am not stealing. No, no I am not stealing.' [...] Just see the foolishness. The same logic, 'No, no, I am not stealing.' Who asked that you are stealing? He asked for the sound, but he disclosed. It is like that."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 6/7/1976)

"To keep his position clear, he has approached that 'I am not thief.' It is like that. Just like I'm going to catch you as thief. Before my catching you come and say, 'No, no I am not a thief,' then you are a thief. Do you understand the logic? I am going to capture you as a thief. Now, before my capturing, you approach me that 'I am not a thief.' That means you are a thief."

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 15/7/1977)

To underscore Srila Prabhupada's logic above, it can be noted that the GBC claim in their resolutions that "*ritvikism*" is a "dangerous philosophical deviation" (resolution 303, 1999). Yet ISKCON's guru hoaxers are unable to explain themselves without being forced to state that they are not preaching this same "dangerous philosophical deviation"!

This is how ludicrous the situation has become as our guru hoaxer "thieves" attempt to hide the fact that they are not trying to "steal" the disciples who actually belong to Srila Prabhupada.

Conclusion

"We are really *ritviks* who want you to worship us as *diksa* gurus, and to hide this fact we will first make an announcement that we are not *ritviks*."

Thus, the guru hoax has turned into nothing but a guru farce.

Decoding ISKCON's Fantasy Language

Anyone who has read our publications will notice that we are able to demonstrate how the pronouncements of ISKCON's leaders are mired in continual contradictory gibberish. Good examples are our "Error in every sentence" series and our "100 Deviations/Contradictions" books. Our readers have all marvelled how such a phenomenon is possible. How can those who, on the one hand, proclaim themselves to be self-realised transparent via media to the *parampara*, at the same time spew forth statements which do not even make sense, and which even a child would be embarrassed to make? And all the while proclaiming it to be the highest level of Gaudiya Vaisnava philosophy? How do they manage to claim that "black" is "white" and "night" is "day", while at the same time keeping a straight face? Simple. You just need to invent a world in which "black" does become "white", and "night" does become "day". And they do this simply by making up a new language where the words mean whatever you decide they mean. Below we present a special cut-out-and-keep guide to this fantasy language used by ISKCON's leaders. In future, when reading the usual nonsensical contradictory pronouncements from ISKCON's leadership, one may keep this guide handy as a translation device to decode their statements. In this way, the rest of us on planet earth who use normal language, will get an insight into the workings of the fantasy language used on planet ISKCON.



Cut-out-and-keep guide

DEFINITIONS FOR WORDS USED BY ISKCON LEADERS IN THEIR FANTASY LANGUAGE

Application of the following definitions will allow the reader to decode the statements made by ISKCON leaders.

- Contradiction:** The process by which one arrives at the absolute truth via continually improving one's previous understanding through changing it.
- Offenses/Aparadha:** Any truthful statements that are disliked by ISKCON's leadership.
- Vaisnava Aparadha:** Any truthful statements about ISKCON's leaders.
- Diksa:** As bell metal can turn to gold when mixed with mercury in an alchemical process, the process of *diksa* allows anyone in ISKCON to magically acquire disciples simply by conducting an initiation ceremony.
- ISKCON Diksa Guru:** A ceremonial priest who is considered "as good as God" due to the act of giving an initiate a spiritual name.
- Ritvik:** An offensive, derogatory term used to devalue the essential role played by the most important personality who conducts a fire sacrifice. The correct term for this munificent personality is the ISKCON *diksa* guru.
- Srila Prabhupada:** When dealing with the Gaudiya Matha and outsiders, he is the *acarya* of ISKCON. When dealing with potential ISKCON disciples, he is only the *siksa* guru, who can never replace the essential ISKCON *diksa* guru.
- Siksa Guru:** A catch-all, unimportant term to describe 'whatever it is Srila Prabhupada does'.
- Deliverance:** An unimportant act performed by Srila Prabhupada. The actual essential act is performed by the ISKCON *diksa* guru via giving the initiate his spiritual name at an initiation ceremony.
- Preaching:** The act of telling someone else to read Srila Prabhupada's books.
- Divya-Jnana:** Transcendental knowledge delivered by the ISKCON *diksa* guru who tells us to read Srila Prabhupada's books.
- Parampara:** A spiritual chain which can only be connected to via a material body.

KNOW THE TRUTH:

The solution to all this ISKCON guru confusion is clearly explained in the book "The Final Order".

To receive a **FREE** copy, please email us at: irm@iskconirm.com

or fill out the enclosed reply card

or write to our address given on page 2.



THE BOOK THE BBC DOES NOT WANT YOU TO READ!

"I hope this book will be read carefully and discussed widely because the profound issues it raises demand consideration at all levels. Every devotee has a real stake in the matter."

From the Foreword by Professor Kim Knott, Head of Religious Studies, Leeds University, UK